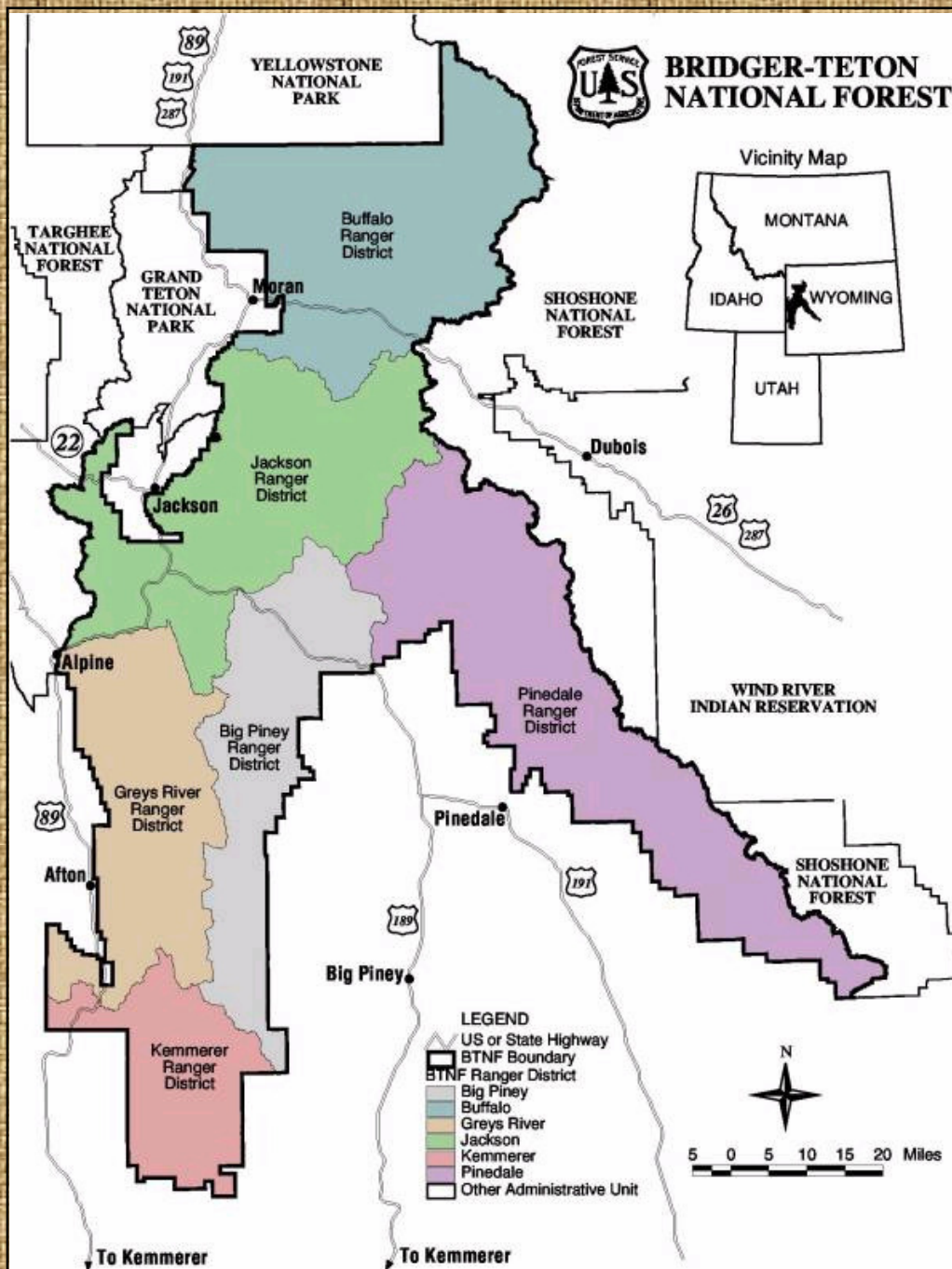


Historic Guard Stations
of the
Bridger-Teton National Forest





Deer Creek Guard Station



Deer Creek Guard Station, Greys River District
(Jim Bailey/USFS photo)

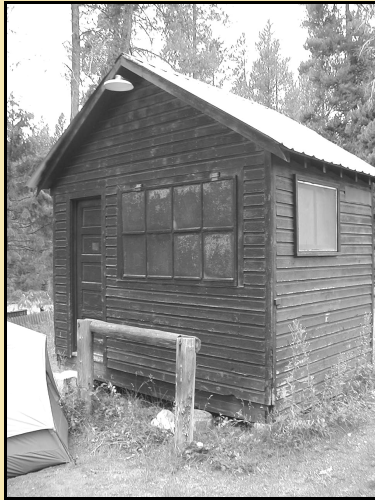


Photo of the shed at Deer Creek

History of Deer Creek Guard Station

Few records or historic documents exist to detail the history of the Deer Creek administrative site. However, we do know that in 1930 the Forest Service enclosed a part of the adjacent meadow for stock pasture for use as a temporary stop-over for the Bedford District Ranger of the Bridger National Forest. A tent camp was also maintained as Rangers checked nearby grazing allotments and monitored timber operations.

In 1933, workers from the Greys River Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp, located a few miles south, constructed the guard station with \$1,642 in Forest Service funds. They also constructed the original latrine, associated corrals and fences, and landscaped the grounds. A small shed was also moved to the site at an unknown date. The Greys River Ranger District still uses the guard station as a bunkhouse for summer field work and as a rental cabin for winter recreationists.

The Deer Creek Guard Station has been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Built in 1933, the buildings are representative of Forest Service field offices designed during President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal Program and built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The main dwelling follows a standard floor plan designed by Regional Architect George L. Nichols, and is one of the better examples of this type of structure on the forest.

McCain Guard Station

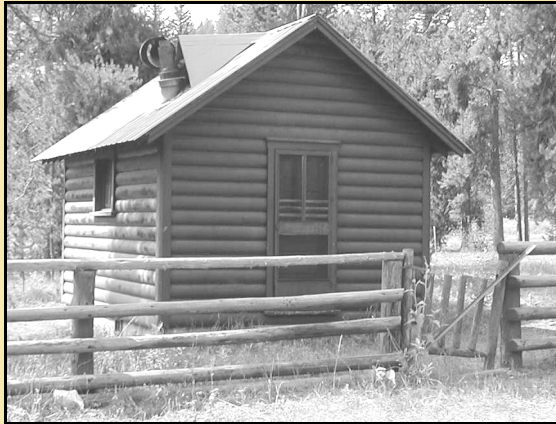


McCain Guard Station, Greys River District (Jim Bailey USFS photo)

History of the McCain Guard Station

Named after former Teton National Forest Supervisor Arthur C. McCain (Forest Supervisor from 1918-1936), the guard station is not in its original location. The well dried up at the original McCain Guard Station site, located a half-mile southeast, so in 1978 and 1979 the Forest Service moved the bunkhouse nearby to a year-round active spring. Over the next ten to fifteen years, two non-historic structures were added: a metal storage shed and a replacement outhouse. The district still uses it as a field bunkhouse and as a winter recreation rental cabin. It is not known whether any buildings existed before the present building's construction.

Meadows Guard Station



Meadows Bunkhouse, Greys River District
(Jim Bailey/USFS photo)



Meadows Guard
Station Office (top)
and barn (bottom)



History of the Meadows Guard Station

The Meadows Guard Station history goes back to 1912, when a small, one-room cabin with a dirt roof was built about 200 yards southeast of the present guard station. In 1924, the cabin was moved to the site of the present barn and reconstructed as a larger building. Rangers from the Bedford Ranger District of the Wyoming/Bridger National Forest used Meadows as a way station while checking grazing and timber allotments. In the early 1930s, the Regional Office decided to expand Meadows Guard Station, and developed a site/landscape plan. In 1933, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) workers constructed the office from a standard plan developed by Region 4 Architect George L. Nichols (in 1934 the CCC also constructed the small building at Greys River Forks Guard Station that was eventually moved to Meadows). In 1941, the CCC tore down the old log cabin and built the barn/garage, which appears to follow a modified two car garage/storeroom floor plan (the barn/garage is not on the original site development plan). Meadows remained mostly unchanged until the 1960s, when the Forest Service closed Greys River Forks Guard Station (located 20 miles north at the confluence of the Little Greys and Greys River) and moved its only building to Meadows. Although it is of a standard plan, this building is somewhat rare: few of its plan design were constructed in the region, and it is the only one of its kind on the forest.

Meadows Guard Station is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The district compound components include a dwelling, a bunkhouse, and a barn/garage. They were built respectively in 1933-1934 and 1941. It is a fine example of a Forest Service field administrative site designed and constructed during President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal Program. While the dwelling and barn/garage were built on-site, the smaller bunkhouse was moved to Meadows from the former Greys River Forks Guard Station in the 1960s. The latrine was built in the 1990s and is not considered eligible to the National Register.

Cazier Guard Station



Cazier Bunkhouse, Greys River District
(Jim Bailey/USFS photo)



Early photos of the originally named Corral Creek Guard Station on the Greys River in what was formerly named the Wyoming National Forest.



History of the Cazier Guard Station

On November 13, 1906, 127 acres were withdrawn for an administrative site to provide a centralized patrol headquarters for the upper Greys River drainage. In 1912, the Forest Service constructed the original Guard Station, a 10' x 12' one-room log cabin. It was named Corral Creek (for a small creek that flows into the nearby Greys River). This cabin was located about 1/4 mile north of the present guard station on the east side of Greys River road. Various Wyoming National Forest ranger districts used this cabin to patrol remote grazing allotments and logging operations.

As it was believed the cabin was rotting and unsafe, in 1933, the forest service sold it to one J. D. Gardner for \$5.00. The same year, the Forest Service selected the current site for a new guard station. The original site plan depicted two buildings, the office and outhouse, which were constructed in 1933 by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). Nine years later, in 1942, the garage was constructed. It is unknown whether the CCC built this structure.

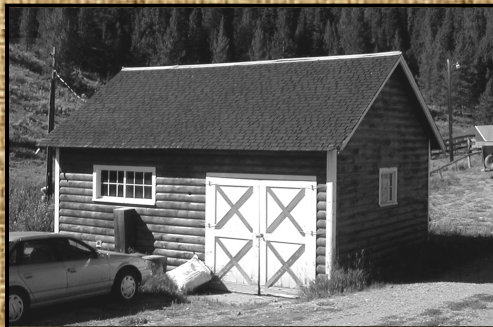
With the exception of the name change, and the office's near-seamless expansion into a bunkhouse, the site has not changed over time. In 1984, Corral Creek was renamed to honor Afton native and Big Piney District Ranger Sam Cazier, the first ranger on the old Wyoming National Forest to use an automobile for patrol. Cazier also constructed part of the three-pole wood timber fence that still circles the guard station. It is recommended that district boundaries should follow the property's immediate fence line. The Greys River Ranger District still uses the guard station for field worker housing and general storage.

Cazier (Kuh-ZEER) Guard Station is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places because it is historically significant in the early administration of the Wyoming, later named Bridger, National Forest. Cazier Guard Station is a fine example of a standardized Forest Service administrative compound designed, developed, and constructed as part of President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal Program.

Hoback Guard Station



Hoback Bunkhouse, Big Piney District
(Jim Bailey /USFS photo)



Photos of the Hoback
Barn (top) and
Garage (bottom)



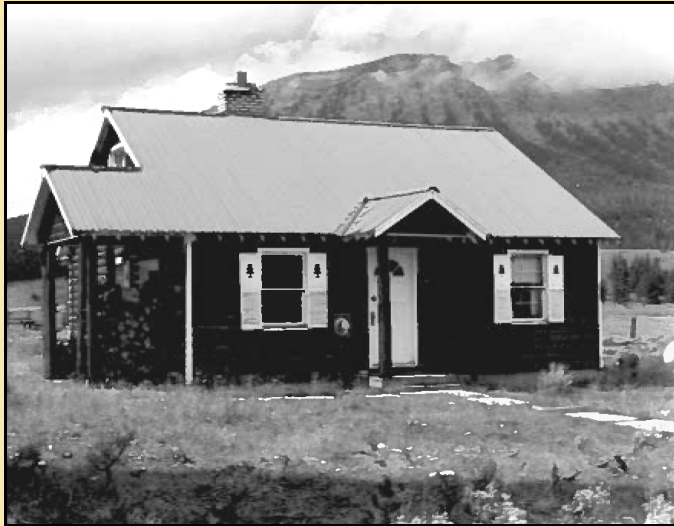
History of the Hoback Guard Station

There are very few written records on the Hoback Guard Station. On November 11, 1922, 160 acres were approved for administrative use, but this acreage was never formally withdrawn from the National Forest System. Historic investment and depreciation records indicate the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) constructed the office/dwelling, garage, and two fly sheds in 1935 (one fly shed is the current barn, while the other was torn down). No records exist of the other two buildings, a smaller storage shed and a newer gas house. In 1947, Hoback District Ranger, Gray Reynolds, requested another 160-acre withdrawal to expand the Hoback Guard Station, then considered "too small." Although former Regional Forester, Edward Cliff, approved Reynolds' request, the land was still never formally withdrawn from the National Forest System.

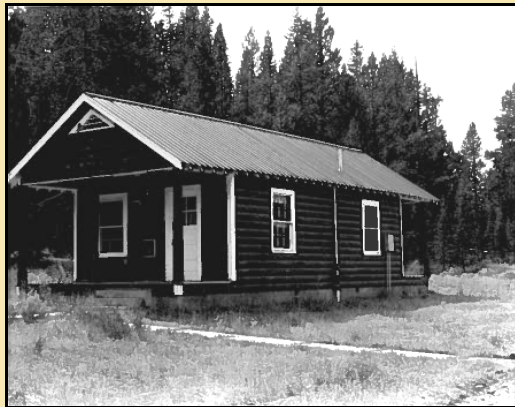
During the 1960s, the Teton National Forest harbored grand designs for a new "Hoback Work Center," one specifically designed to "upgrade the administration of the [Hoback Ranger] district and better serve the public and Forest user." This proposed ambitious expansion included the construction of a new water system, warehouse, trailer spaces, gas house, barn, office, and dwellings, along with a visitor information center. The proposal also called for upgraded fences, improved roads, and a sewage system. For reasons unknown, this expansion never manifested. Instead, the Forest Service constructed (or moved?) the gas house, expanded the office into a larger bunkhouse, and improved the water system. The only material evidence of the grandiose expansion plans is the trailer space hookups near the entry. The Forest Service currently uses the Hoback Guard Station for seasonal housing, a worker tent camp, and general storage.

The Hoback Guard Station is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Built in 1935, it is a fine example of a standardized, Forest Service field administrative compound designed and implemented during President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal Program and built by the CCC. The storage shed might be the oldest building, but there are no records that confirm its age. Guard station expansion proposals from the 1960s do not mention the shed. The gas house dates from the 1960s as one of the only buildings constructed from the work center expansion proposal.

Sherman Guard Station



Sherman Guard Station, Big Piney District



The shop at Sherman Guard Station

History of the Sherman Guard Station

The Sherman Ranger/Guard Station was the headquarters for the Teton Division of the Yellowstone Forest Reserve from 1905 until the Wyoming National Forest's creation on July 1, 1908. From 1912 to 1930 Sherman was the year-round headquarters for the Sherman Ranger District. During this time, a shop and large four-room log dwelling were constructed. In 1904 the Forest Service sold and moved the dwelling to Big Piney.

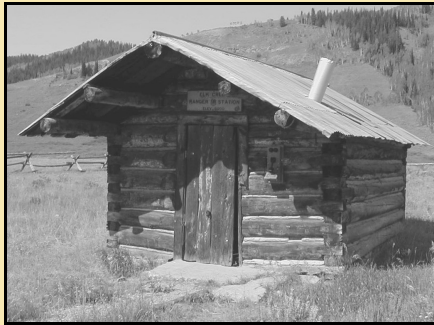
From 1930 to 1937, Sherman was used as a summer headquarters until the absorption of the smaller Sherman Ranger District by the larger Big Piney Ranger District. It was during this time that three of the older historic buildings that still stand were built; the fruit cellar circa 1929, the barn in 1931, and the generator shed in 1932. In 1933 and 1934 the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) constructed three other historic buildings; the office, the garage/shop (modified into a bunkhouse in the late 1970s), and the outhouse. These buildings followed standard floor plans designed by Regional Architect George L. Nichols.

The Sherman Guard Station has been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The guard station is associated with early Forest Service management of timber and rangelands. Rangers working out of Sherman monitored extensive timber sale and grazing activities around Horse Creek, North Cottonwood Creek, and other adjoining drainages during the 1920s and 1930s. The Sherman Guard Station also represents an architectural shift from traditional Forest Service vernacular architecture to the era of standardized building plans. This site is a well preserved example of a remote Forest Service administrative site designed and constructed during the Depression Era.

LaBarge Guard Station



LaBarge Guard Station, Kemmerer District
(Jim Bailey/USFS photo)



Small cabin at the Elk Creek Guard Station:
similar to the original guard station that was
constructed in 1912 at the LaBarge Station.

History of the LaBarge Guard Station

The original guard station was constructed in 1912 as a 12' by 14' one-room log cabin. The cabin was used as a temporary station by District Rangers of the old Wyoming National Forest. This cabin was dismantled in 1933 and in its place the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) constructed the present bunkhouse with \$1,664 in Forest Service Funds. The bunkhouse followed standard floor plans designed by Regional Architect George L. Nichols and is the one of only four of its type still in use on the Forest. Also constructed in 1933 was a latrine and small storage shed. The old latrine was removed and replaced with a newer outhouse in the early 1900s while the 1933 storage shed remains.

The LaBarge Guard Station has been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. It is a well preserved example of a remote Forest Service administrative site designed and constructed as part of President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal Program.

Immediately behind the LaBarge Guard Station, and continuing to the northwest, is the Lander Cut-off of the Oregon Trail. Named after engineer Fredrick West Lander and constructed in the late 1850's, the cutoff was the first federally funded road to be constructed west of the Mississippi. This route provided a short cut for those emigrants heading to the Pacific Northwest. Records indicate that 13,000 emigrants passed over this route during the first year of its use, accompanied by large herds of cattle. Wagon trains ranged in size from 1 to 150 wagons with an average of 2.9 people and 12.2 head of stock per wagon. The last wagons to travel the Lander Cut-off were observed in Snider Basin between 1910 and 1912.

Scaler Guard Station



Scaler Guard Station, Kemmerer District
(Jim Bailey/USFS photo)



Scaler's Guard Station, a completed CCC project and crew, 1937.

History of Scaler Guard Station

The Scaler Guard Station was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in 1937. Although the Guard Station follows standard floor plans designed by Regional Architect George L. Nichols, this lodgepole log cabin differs from the milled lumber and log siding techniques used in other guard stations on the forest.

The Scaler Guard Station was built at the site of the Standard Timber Company's tie hack village on south LaBarge Creek. Starting in 1937 and continuing through the 1940s, the Standard Timber Company produced vast quantities of railroad ties from the lodgepole pine forest in the LaBarge Creek drainage. These ties were cut and hauled to the creek banks during the winter months, then floated down stream in the spring to the railroad at Green River City in southern Wyoming.

The Scaler Guard Station has not changed much over the last six decades. A two-car garage/barn once existed here, but sometime after 1985 it collapsed under the weight of too many heavy winter snows. All of the other buildings associated with the South LaBarge Creek tie hack village have long since been dismantled. Two newer buildings, a small generator house, and pump house were built in the late 1980s.

The Scaler Guard Station has been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places because of its unique architectural characteristics and for its association with the early timber activities on the Bridger National Forest.

Kelly Guard Station



Kelly Guard Station, Kemmerer District



Historic photo of Kelley Guard Station, Kemmerer District

History of the Kelly Guard Station

The area on which the Kelly Guard Station is located was originally established as an administrative site in 1907 where it served as a year-long station for the old Yellowstone Forest Reserve. On July 1st, 1908, President Theodore Roosevelt signed Executive Order 873 creating the Wyoming National Forest from the southern portion of the Yellowstone Forest Reserve. The Kelly Guard Station originally consisted of a log cabin, barn and storage shed/shop. The Guard Station was converted into a summer headquarters for the Cokeville Ranger District, and in 1922 a wood frame dwelling was constructed on the site. In 1947 this dwelling was cut into three sections and moved to Cokeville where it was re-established and served as a year-round dwelling for the Cokeville District Ranger.

The original dwelling, barn, and storage shed were removed and in 1933 a new office/bunkhouse, one-car garage, barn, and outhouse were constructed using Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) labor. These buildings, which are still present at the site, followed standard floor plans designed by Regional Architect George L. Nichols.

The Kelly Guard Station has been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places for its association with the early administration of National Forest System Lands and as a well preserved example of a remote Forest Service administrative site designed and constructed during the Depression Era.